

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 13, 14 and 31-33 have been cancelled and claims 1, 22, 29 and 30 have been amended. Claims 2, 9 and 10 have been previously cancelled and claims 15-21 have been withdrawn from further consideration. Thus, claims 1, 3-8, 11, 12, 22-30 and 34-36 are active in this application, of which claims 1, 22 and 29 are independent claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments do not add new matter to the application and are fully supported by the specification.

Entry of the Amendments and Remarks is respectfully requested because entry of Amendment places the present application in condition for allowance, or in the alternative, better form for appeal. No new matters are believed to be added by these Amendments. In view of the above amendments and the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Claim Objection

In the Office Action, Claim 22 was objected to for several informalities therein. This objection is respectfully traversed because, in this response, claim 22 has been amended to read “... a second light guiding plate adjoining the first light guiding plate to induce the light beam *from* the first light *guiding* plate in a second horizontal direction ...”, as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 22-27, 30, 32 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

In this response, claim 22 has been amended to read “a first light guiding plate adjoining the light *source* ...”, as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 23-27 were rejected because they depend from claim 22.

With respect to claims 30, 32 and 33, claims 32 and 33 have been cancelled. Claim 30 has been amended to further recite “wherein the transparent face and a flat surface of the light guiding plate form an angle of about 3.0 degrees to about 3.5 degrees, and the reflective face and a flat surface of the light guiding plate form an angle of about 33 degrees to about 34 degrees”. Thus, Applicants believe that the ambiguity as to what or where the angles of these claims are measured from has been clarified.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection of claims 22-27, 30, 32 and 33.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3-7, 11-13 and 22-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by WO 00/32981 issued to Sumida, *et al.* (“Sumida”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claims 13, 14, 32 and 33 have been cancelled in this response.

With respect to claims 1, 3-7 and 11-12, independent claim 1 has been amended to read:

1. A display device, comprising:

...

wherein a first acute angle between the transparent surface and a flat surface of the second light guiding plate is in a range between 3.0 degrees to 3.5 degrees, and a second acute angle between the reflective surface and the flat surface is in a range between 33 degrees to 34 degrees.”

In this regard, according to the cyclic structure described in paragraphs [0405] (Fig. 44) and [501] (Fig. 56) of Sumida, calculation of the structure indicates that the reflective surface and the flat surface of the light guiding plate form an angle of 45 degrees, which is substantially different from the claimed range between 33 degrees to 34 degrees. Also, the calculation further indicates that, in Sumida, the transparent surface and the flat surface of the light guiding plate form an angle of 3.8 degrees or 1.5 degrees, which is substantially different from the claimed range between 3.0 degrees to 3.5 degrees.

Since Sumida fails to disclose these claimed features, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Sumida. Claims 3-7 and 11-12 are dependent from claim 1, and would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

With respect to claims 22-27, the Examiner asserted that Sumida discloses, in Figs. 1-60(b), the display device of claim 1 because Sumida discloses that “the second light guiding plate 104 directs the light beam downward (vertical) while the first light guiding plate 102 directed the light beam sideways (horizontal) in a direction perpendicular to that of the second light guiding plate 104” (Office Action, page 4). This assertion is respectfully disagreed with.

In this response, independent claim 22 has been amended to read as follows.

“22. A display device, comprising:
a display panel for displaying an image;
a light source generating a light beam for the display panel;
a first light guiding plate adjoining the light source to induce the light beam from the light source in *a first horizontal direction* and having a first pattern formed on a surface thereof for uniformly inducing the light beam; and
a second light guiding plate adjoining the first light guiding plate to induce the light beam from the first light guiding plate in *a second horizontal direction* and having a second pattern for reflecting the light beam *vertically toward the display panel*,
wherein the first horizontal direction is substantially perpendicular to the second horizontal direction.”

In this regard, Sumida fails to disclose “a second light guiding plate ... guiding the light beam ... in a *second horizontal direction substantially perpendicular to the first horizontal direction*”, as recited in claim 1.

In fact, as shown in Fig. 7 and Fig 14, Sumida *teaches away* from the second light guiding plate 104 guiding the light beam in a horizontal direction substantially perpendicular to the horizontal direction to which the first light guiding plate 102 guides the light beam from the light source 101. Thus, it is submitted that claim 22 is patentable over Sumida. Claims 23-27 are dependent from claim 22 and would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

With respect to claims 29-36, claims 31-33 have been cancelled and independent claim 29 has been amended to further recite “wherein the transparent face and a flat surface of the light guiding plate from an angle of about 3.0 degrees to about 3.5 degrees, and the reflective face and a flat surface of the light guiding plate form an angle of about 33 degrees to about 34 degrees.”

As previously mentioned, Sumida fails to disclose or suggest this claimed feature. Thus, it is submitted that claim 29 is patentable over Sumida. Claims 30 and 34-36 are dependent from claim 29 and would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 3-7, 11-13 and 22-36.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Sumida. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claims 14 has been cancelled. Claim 8 is dependent from claim 1. As previously mentioned, claim 1 has been amended and is now believed to be patentable over Sumida

because, as mentioned above, Sumida fails to disclose or suggest “wherein a first acute angle between the transparent surface and a flat surface of the second light guiding plate is in a range between 3.0 degrees to 3.5 degrees, and a second acute angle between the reflective surface and the flat surface is in a range between 33 degrees to 34 degrees.”

No secondary reference has been introduced to cure the deficiency of Sumida. Thus, it is submitted that claim 8 is patentable over Sumida. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 8 and 14.

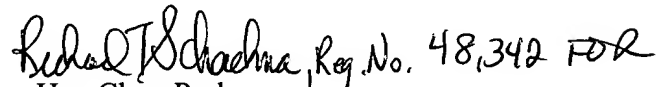
CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: February 24, 2005

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